Hike in power tariff in Delhi

2480. SHRIANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the factors responsible for periodic hike in power tariff in the National Capital of Delhi; and

(b) whether the infrastructure has been improved after privatization of power distribution in Delhi and other major cities?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):(a) Determination of tariff for retail sale of electricity is the statutory function of the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERC) under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. The SERC is required to determine the tariff in accordance with the provisions of the Act and after taking into consideration the annual revenue requirement of the licensee and considering the suggestions and objections received from the public, in a transparent manner. The tariff for retail sale of electricity mainly depends on the cost of power purchase/generation, Operation and Maintenance expenses of the licensee and technical and commercial losses in the system.

(b) Distribution in recent times has been privatized in Orissa and Delhi. The Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that there has been significant addition to the infrastructure such as power transformers, extra high voltage cables, installation of distribution transformers, 11 Kv feeders etc. by the distribution companies and improvement in the quality of power supply.

In Orissa also, it has been reported that there has been general improvement in load shedding, interruptions/tripping frequency and restoration of faults by the distribution companies.

Faulty meters in Delhi

2481. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry received complaints of faulty meters from different parts of the country especially from Delhi;